

Studying Feminist & Gender Studies (FGS) Abroad & Away

Many opportunities exist for students interested in Feminist and Gender Studies to take classes in another part of the world. In addition to blocks which may be taught off-campus by CC professors during the year and in the summer, many options exist on CC-approved semester programs around the world. Here are some options that you might consider; this list is not exhaustive.

If you have questions about participating in one of these programs, please visit the website for CC's Center for Global Education (www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/globalandfieldstudy), where you can learn **how to apply**, see a **guide to credit transfer processes**, and also search the **course approval database** to see previous approvals from past semesters. For questions about credit transfer to your major or minor, or specific questions about academic planning and goals, check with your academic advisor(s) or dept. chair.

Augsburg University: New Activisms, Human Rights, and Social Justice in Central America

This multi-country semester study abroad program travels to Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Yucatán, Mexico, and explores the struggles of people in Mesoamerica. While learning or polishing your Spanish, you will explore and learn more about the human rights crisis the region currently faces from the perspective of historically marginalized communities (such as: Indigenous and Afro-descendant people, peasant communities, Women's collectives and representatives of feminist movements, members of LGBTQ+, and youth). You will explore the historical causes of social, ethnic, racial, and political conflicts that have shaped the region and engage with communities, groups and individuals who are organizing themselves to respond to the challenges they face today: From the use of history and memory in local struggles for reparation and justice; to reflections about how religion has informed feminist, Afro-descendant, queer, and environmental initiatives; to sharing time with people carving out new economic and social alternatives or forced to flee their homes due to political, environmental, or economic causes. One-on-one Spanish instruction allows students of all levels of language to participate in this semester.

DIS Stockholm

Well known for its progressive norms and policies, Sweden is a unique place to study the challenges, ideas, and dilemmas of core topics within gender, body, sexuality, and race. In the *Gender, Equality, and Sexuality in Scandinavia* core course, you will explore the implications and challenges of living in a country with the world's first self-proclaimed feminist government, where "gender mainstreaming" policies are highest on the agenda, and visit with Swedish families raising their children in a gender-neutral manner. The program includes a week-long study tour to Berlin, where you will examine how constructions of gender and sexuality intersect with ethnicity, race, class, religion and (dis)ability in Europe. In addition to a required introductory Swedish language course, related electives to choose from to round out your semester include: *Economics of Gender, Human Trafficking and the Sex Trade, and Transgender in Scandinavia* (Stockholm is home to the Transgender Film Fest every year in November).

DIS Copenhagen

Denmark and other Scandinavian countries have liberal social policies and universal welfare, with a perceived high level of equality for all genders, sexual orientations, and family structures. Prostitution is legal in Denmark, Sweden, and the Netherlands, but each country has vastly different approaches and policies regarding sex work. Explore how national cultures construct their own narratives about sexuality, gender, and rights in the Copenhagen core course *Prostitution and the Sex Trade in Europe*. This course will also include a week-long study tour to Amsterdam-The Hague. In addition to taking a basic Danish language and culture course, there are a wide variety of FGS-related electives to choose from to round out your semester, including: *Gender and Sexuality in Europe, Gender Perspectives on Human Rights, Psychology of Human Sexuality, History of Sexuality in Europe, Activism: Engagement and Resistance, Masculinities in Scandinavia, and LGBTQ in Europe: Theories, Communities, and Spaces*.

SIT and IHP Programs

CC approves all School for International Training (SIT) semesters, and also their International Honors Program (IHP) comparative multi-country study abroad programs, offered in both the fall and spring semester. All SIT programs are grouped into "Critical Global Issues" around the world, and many of the ones in the "Identity" or "Human Rights" area would be worth examining for FGS themes. A few specific SIT programs to highlight:

- **SIT Netherlands: International Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender:** One of the original gender-studies programs through SIT, this program explores the complexities and paradoxes of gender and sexuality in the Netherlands, with a two-week field trip to Morocco. The two core seminars are: "Theory and Application of Feminist, LGBTQI, and Queer Studies" & "Migration, Gender, and Sexuality."
- **SIT/IHP Human Rights Semester: Foundations, Challenges, and Advocacy (4 countries/comparative):** The *Grassroots Movements* course is tied together under the cross-cutting theme of struggles for women's rights and gender justice, and the *Comparative Issues in Human Rights* course draws from interdisciplinary lenses such as cultural and ethnic studies, gender and sexuality studies, and postcolonial scholarship, offering analytical tools to study the nature of oppression and dehumanization and the possibilities for human rights to shape humanizing alternatives.
- **SIT India: Public Health, Gender, and Sexuality:** Understand how and why India's approaches to health, gender, sexuality, and identity are changing, and develop insights into innovations for inclusive and accessible reproductive and sexual health care in one of the most populated democracies in the world. A core course is *Public Health: Key Determinants, Gender, and Equity*, exploring how gender, caste, and poverty affect access to healthcare.

(SIT Programs, continued)

- **SIT Morocco: Multiculturalism and Human Rights:** The core course “Human Rights and Social Movements in a Multicultural Context” includes a module on Gendering Citizenship: Women’s Rights and Constitutional Reform in Morocco, focusing on women’s human and legal rights in Morocco, and on women’s struggles in the aftermath of the 2011 Constitution.
- **SIT Nepal: Development, Gender, and Social Change in the Himalaya:** Based in Kathmandu, this program examines caste, class, gender, and religion in Nepal. Using gender as a lens for engaging with development theory and practice, the seminar examines historical and contemporary Nepal and the social, political, cultural, environmental, and economic forces — both internal and global — that have shaped and continue to define the country
- **SIT South Africa: Social and Political Transformation:** In the historic coastal city of Durban, students engage with issues of memory and reconciliation, development issues triggered by disparate strategies, the challenges of nation building, gender, and patriarchy, and the intertwining identities in post-apartheid South Africa.
- **SIT Vietnam: Culture, Social Change, and Development:** Examine Vietnam's economic, social, environment and human development discourses with an emphasis on grassroots organizations and local communities. A core course is *Ethnicity, Gender, and Social Change*, which studies changing gender relations and development pressures among K’ho, Hmong, Giay, and Red Dao ethnic minority groups in the Sapa mountains.

Kansai Gaidai University, Japan

Established in 1972, the Asian Studies Program today annually welcomes over 600 competitively selected students who represent about 40 countries and regions. Located in Hirakata City, Osaka, Kansai Gaidai is accessible via a one-hour train ride to Kyoto and Nara, the ancient capitals, and Osaka, the second largest business hub in Japan. The goal of the program is to provide international students with a means of exploring Japan and Asian studies through classroom instruction and interaction with Japanese people. A number of courses are available that explore gender and sexuality in Japanese culture, including: *Sexuality and Culture in Japan: Shifting Dimensions of Desire, Relationship and Society*; *Anthropology of Gender and Sexual Diversity: Japan, Asia and Beyond*; *Gender and Sexuality in Japan: Norms, Practice and Selves in Motion*; *Culture, Power and Belonging in Japan: Anthropological Perspectives on the Making of Minorities and Majorities*; and *Geisha, Gangsters and Samurai: Japan in Western Film*. You will take two Japanese language courses (at any level), one course focused on learning speaking, reading, listening, and writing Japanese, and one course in Kanji (script). Together, these two courses yield two blocks worth of language credit at CC.

CIEE Ghana: Arts + Sciences, Legon

Interested in the political and economic challenges facing Sub-Saharan Africa and developing nations? Ghana offers a rich cultural heritage and fascinating history of politics and social change to explore, with coursework focusing on gender equity and development at the University of Ghana, and studying in a classroom with the perspectives of local students and not just American classmates. You will get to know life in West Africa by living with a Ghanaian family, volunteering with a local organization, and doing an internship. In addition to a required Twi language course, you may enroll in a wide range of courses, including West African performing arts, African studies, social work, politics, economics, and religion at the University of Ghana, ranked as the 7th best university in Africa. Courses offered at the University of Ghana may include: *Geography of Gender and Development in Africa*, *Identities and Conflicts in Africa*, *African Philosophy*, *Sociology of Gender Studies*, *African Dance*, *The Black Diaspora*, *Gender and Politics*, and *Social Structure of Modern Ghana*.

***For more information about any of these programs, or to explore other options, please visit
www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/globalandfieldstudy***

Departmental policy on study abroad credit: The Feminist and Gender Studies Program allows majors to earn up to two (2) credits, and minors one (1) credit, from off-campus study programs to count towards the degree, typically in the form of one of the electives. You may submit course approval requests through Summit to initiate the review process with the program, but the second and required step for any course taken on an off-campus study program to count towards your FGS major or minor is a **written rationale**, submitted via e-mail to your academic advisor and the program director in the FGS program. This 150 to 200-word rationale should explain how you are proposing to count this specific course towards your FGS major or minor.

Summit is the first step, but this rationale is the second important step that must be completed and approved for any approvals in Summit to count to your specific degree progress. Check with your FGS advisor or the Center for Global Education if you have any questions about these two steps.